AN ACCOUNT HOW THE Earl of Essex Killed Himself in the Tower of London, The 13th. of July 1683.

As it appears by the Coroners Inquest, and the several Informations following.

DUBLIN.

Reprinted by *Benjamin Took*, and *John Crook* Printers to the King's most Excellent Majesty: and are to be sold by *Mary Crook* and *Andrew Crook*, at His Majesties Printing House on *Ormond Key*, and by *Josephwild* Bookseller in *Castle-steetr* 1683.

Turr' London ss. AN Inquiſition Indented, Taken at the *Tower* of *London*, in the County of *Middleſex*, the fourteenth day of *July*, in the Five and Thirtieth Year of the Reign of Our Soveraign Lord *Charles* the Second, by the Grace of God, of *England Scotland*, *France*, and *Ireland* King, Defender of the faith, &c. *Annoq; Dom.* 1683. before *Edward Farnham* Eſq; Coroner of the ſaid Lord the King. of the Liberty of the *Tower* of *London*, upon view of the Body of *Arthur* Earl of *Eſſex* then and there lying Dead, by the Oaths of *Danniel Colwel* Eſq; *William Fiſher*, *Thomas Godſel* Eſq; *Thomas Hunt*, *Nathaniel Mountney* Eſq; *Thomas Potter*, *William How*, *Robert Burgoine*, *Eleazer Wiggins*, *Thomas Hoggsfleſh* *Henry Cripps*, *Richard Rudder*, *William Knips* *John Hudſon*, *John Kittlebeater*, *Lancelet Colſon*, *Morgan Cowarn*, *Thomas Bryan*, *William Thaxton*, *Richard Cliffe*. *Zebadiah Richard*, *william Bayford*. and *Theophilus Charter*, good and lawful men of the Liberty of the *Tower* of *London* aforeſaid, who being Charged and Sworn to enquire how and in what manner the ſaid *Arthur* Earl of *Eſſex* came to his Death. upon their Oaths ſay. That the aforeſaid *Arthur* Earl of *Eſſex* the Thirteenth day of *July*. in the ſaid Five and thirtieth Year of his now Majeſties Reign. at the ſaid *Tower* of *London* in the ſaid County of *Middleſex*. about the Ninth hour of the ſame day in the Fore. noon, not having God before his eyes, but

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but being moved and seduced by the Instigation of the Devil, of his Malice forethought at the *Tower* of *London* aforesaid, in the said County of *Middlesex*, then and there being alone in a Closet, with one Rasour of the value of one shilling, Voluntarily and Feloniously Cut his Throat, and did thereby give himself one Mortal Wound, it being cut from the one Jugular to the other, and through the Wind-Pipe and Gullet unto the *Vertebres* of the Neck, both Jugular Veins being also quite Divided; of which said Mortal Wound the said *Arthur* Earl of *Essex* instantly Died; and thus the aforesaid Jurors, upon their Oaths say, That the aforesaid *Arthur* Earl of *Essex*, in Manner and Form aforesaid did Voluntarily and Feloniously, as *felo de se* Kil'd and Murdered him self against the Peace of our Lord the King His Crown and Dignity In Witness Whereof as well I the said Coroner, as the Jurors aforesaid, to this Inquisition have put our Hands and Seals, the Day and Year above said.

Vera Copia Examin' cum Original,
Per. E. FARNHAM.

FINIS

THE Information of *Paul Bomeny*, Servant to the Earl of *Essex*, for about Three or Four Years now last past; taken upon Oath the Fourteenth Day of *July*, *Anno Regni Caroli Secundi Dei Gratia, Angliæ, Scotiæ, Franciæ & Hiberniæ Regis, Fidei Defensoris &c. Tricesimo Quinto, Annoq; Domni*, 1683.

SAith, That when my Lord came to Captain *Hawley*, which was the Eleventh Instant, my Lord of *Essex* asked him for a Pen-Knife to Pare his Nails, as he was wont to do; to which this Informant answered, Being come in haste he had not brought it, but he would send for one, and accordingly sent the Footman with a Note for several things for my Lord, amongst which the Pen-Knife was inserted; and the Footman went, and gave the Bill to my Lords Steward, who sent the Provisions, but not the Pen-Knife, and he told the Footman, He would get one the next day. When the Footman was come, my Lord asked If the Pen-Knife was come? This Informant answered: No but he should have it the next day, and accordingly, on the Twelfth Instant in the morning, before my Lord of *Essex* was up, this Informant sent the Footman home with a Note to the Steward, in which amongst the other things he asked for a Pen-Knife for my Lord; and when the Footman was gone, about, or a little after Eight of the Clock, my Lord sent one Mr. *Russell* his Warder to this Informant, who came and then he asked him If the Pen-Knife was come? This Informant said, No my Lord, but I shall have it by and by, to which my Lord said, That he should bring him one of his Rasours, it would do as well; And then this Informant went &

Fetched one, and gave it my Lord; who then went to pare his Nails; and then this Informant went out of the Room into the Passage by the Door, on *Friday* the Thirteenth Instant, and began to talke with the Warder, and a little while after he went down staires; and soon after came the Footman with the provision and brought also a Penknife which this Informant put upon his Bed, & thought my Lord had nomore needof it becauſe he thought he had Pared his Nails, & then this Informant came up to my Lords Chamber, about eight or nine in the Forenoon on *Friday* the Thirteenth Instant, with a little Note from the Steward; but not finding his Lord in the Chamber, went to the Closestool Closet Door, & found it shut; And he thinking his Lord was busie there, went down, and staid a little, & came up again, thinking his Lord had been Come out of the Closet; And finding him not in the Chamber, he Knocked at the door withhis finger, Thrice, & said, my Lord, But no body answering, he took up the Hanging, and Looking through the Chink; he saw blood, & a Part of the Rasour; whereupon he called the Warder, *Russel*, & went down to call for help, and the said *Russel* Pushed the door open, & there they saw my Lord of *Essex* all a long the Floor, without a Periwig, and all full of Blood, and the Rasour by him, And this Deponent further deposeth that the Rasour now Shewd unto him, at the time of his Examination, is the same Rasour which he did bring to my Lord, and which did Lye on the ground in the Closet, by my Lord

BOMENI

The

THE Information of *Thomas Russel* one of the Warders of the *Tower*, who had the Custody of the Earl of *Essex*. taken the Fourteenth day of *July*, *Anno Regni Caroli Secundi Dei Gratia Angliæ, Scotiæ, Franciæ, & Hiberniæ Regis, Fidei Defensor*, &c. *Tricesimo Quinto, Annoq; Dom.* 1683.

SAith, that on *Fryday* the Thirteenth Instant, about Eight or nine of the Clock in the Forenoon, he was present when he did hear the Lord of *Essex* call to his Man Mr. *Bomeny* for a Pen-knife to pare his nails, and then for a Rasour, which Mr. *Bomeny* brought him, and then my Lord walked up and down the Room scraping his nails with the Rasour, and shut the outward door; Mr. *Bomeny*, half a quarter of an hour afterwards, not finding my Lord in his Bed-Chamber, went down Staires again, believing that my Lord was then Private in his Closet. *Bomeny* came up about a quarter of an Hour afterwards, and Knocked at the door, then called, My Lord My Lord, My Lord; but he not answering, peeped through a Chink of the door, and did see the Earl of *Essex* lying on the Ground in the Closet, whereupon he did cry out, That my Lord was fa'n down sick; and then this Informant went to the Closet door, and opened it, the Key being on the out side, and then did see My Lord lye on the Ground in his Blood, his Throat being cut.

Tho. Russel.

The

THe Information of *Robert Sherwood* [illegible] *Fanchurch Street*, Chyrurgion, taken th Fourtenth day of *July*, *Anno Regni Caroli Secun di*, *Dei Gratia Angliæ Scotiæ*, *Franciæ*, & *Hiber niæ Regis*, *Fidei Defensor*. &c. *Tricesimo Quint Annoq*; *Dom*. 1638.

Saith, That he hath Viewed the Throat of the Ea of *Essex*, and does find that there is a Large Wou and that the *Aspera Arteria*, or Winde Pipe, an the Gullet, with the *Jugular Arteries*, are all divided: O which Wound he certanly died.

Robert Sherwoo

THe Information of *Robert Andrews* [illegible] *Crutchet Friers* Chyrurgion, taken upo Oath the Fourteenth day of *July*, *Anno Regi Caroli Secundi nunc Regis Angliæ*, &c. *Tricesim Quinto*, *Annoq*; *Dom*. 1683.

Saith, That he hath Viewed the Throat of the Lor of *Essex*, and does find, That it was cut from th one *Jugular* to the other; and through the wind Pi and Gullet, uuto the *Vertebres* of the Neck, both *Jugul* Veins being also quite divided.

Robert Andrew